

★ news release

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Great numbers of ducks winter on the lake and the adjoining Catahoula National Wildlife Refuge. This high use by waterfowl depends upon normal water-level fluctuation over the open lakebed. The zone between elevations 27 and 30 feet includes about 18,000 acres of land which produces waterfowl food plants. These plants are maintained by an annual drying up of a great expanse of lakebed during the summer and reflooding after the growing season has ended. Control facilities will provide for maintaining ideal waterfowl conditions on Catahoula Lake to mitigate damages resulting from the project.

Joint planning for this water development by the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife was under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. Locating the Jonesville Lock and Dam downstream from Jonesville will allow deeper water for harbor and industrial development in the area, provide water deep enough for incidental navigation a considerable distance up Tensas River, and improve recreation possibilities.

Approximately \$5½ million in project funds will be spent by the Corps of Engineers specifically for facilities to prevent project-caused damages to the natural waterfowl food-producing area in Catahoula Lake.

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